

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 – 20 (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) An inventory control system, said system comprising:
a processor operable to determine a required quantity of material;
a means for communicating with at least one supplier of said material, wherein said communication includes conveying to said at least one supplier said quantity and a time frame and receiving from said at least one supplier a confirmation;
computer readable code processed by said processor, wherein said code is operable to re-determine said required quantity using feedback relating to a performance of at least one supply chain participant.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21 wherein said feedback includes results of a comparison between an actual run rate and a corresponding anticipated run rate.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21 wherein said feedback includes results of a comparison between an actual production yield and a corresponding anticipated production yield.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21 further comprising:
computer readable code processed by said processor and operable to determine said quantity using one or more of a product forecast, a bill of materials, a material lead time, and a desired inventory level.

25. (Previously Presented) Computer executable code stored on a computer readable medium, said code comprising:
code operable to determine a desired quantity of material and a timetable for receiving said material;
code operable to interact with at least one supplier via electronic messages over the Internet, wherein said interaction is capable of acting as an order for said material and a confirmation of said order; and
code operable to send, via electronic messages over the Internet, a request for at least one additional confirmation of said order.

26. (Previously Presented) The code of claim 25 further comprising:
code operable to identify at least one alternate supplier of said material if said at least one supplier fails to confirm said order.

27. (Previously Presented) The code of claim 25 further comprising:
code operable to identify a supplier of alternate material if said at least one supplier fails to confirm said order.

28. (Previously Presented) The code of claim 25 further comprising:
code operable to receive electronic messages over the Internet, denial of said order from said at least one supplier; and
code operable to identify at least one alternate supplier of said material;
code operable to interact with said at least one alternate supplier, via electronic messages over the Internet, wherein said interaction is capable of acting as an order for said material and a confirmation of said order; and
code operable to re-evaluate said desired quantity of material and said timetable for receiving said material;
code operable to send, via electronic messages over the Internet, at least one request for additional confirmation.

29. (Previously Presented) The code of claim 25 further comprising:
code operable to re-evaluate said desired quantity of material and said timetable for receiving said material;
code operable to modify said desired quantity or said timetable; and
code operable to adjust said order via the Internet, wherein said adjusted order reflects said modified quantity or said modified timetable; and
code for adjusting said desired quantity based upon an analysis of forecasts for one or more of, bills of materials, desired inventory levels, material lead times, actual run rates, or actual yields.